

Assignment 3

Research Methods and Proposal HPCOS81

Year module

School of Computing

Assignment 3: Academic writing

NOTE: This is a compulsory assignment.

NOTE: There is no extension for this assignment.

Admin

Unique assignment number: 843613

Format: Written

Submission date: 2020/07/30



Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to instruct you on academic and scientific writing.

Outcomes

At the end of this assignment cycle you will have an overview of how to write your research proposal scientifically.

Documents

You need to use the following documents during the execution of the activities for this assignment:

- Learning unit 1
- Learning unit 2
- Learning unit 4 (myUnisa/HPCOS81/Additional Resources/Assignment 3)
- All other resources under Additional Resources and Assignment 3

Outputs

- Clear understanding of academic writing
- Clear understanding of a research question, objectives and deliverables
- Write an academic literature review
- Overview of time management

Turnitin

- You should have received access to Turnitin via your mylife email account.
- You have a number of draft options to test your work. There are two draft submissions under Assignment 2 and two draft submission under Assignment 3.
- Use Turnitin before final submission of Assignment 03.
- Submit your final research document to Assignment 3 to the Final folder (**Assignment 3 FINAL 843613**) before submission to mylife. This Final folder will be used for evaluation.

Note

- By end of July all students should be on track with the work. Therefore, **no** extension will be given for this assignment.
- This assignment will be the bases (groundwork) for your Portfolio. You can use this assignment as the draft again for your Portfolio.

Assignment 3:

This assignment has two tasks:

Task 1: Online MOOC academic writing course

Task 2: Your research project

Both tasks will be assessed within this assignment.

Task 1: Academic writing via MOOC

This MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) is a project of the University of South Africa (Unisa). The aim of this MOOC is to provide post-school students, undergraduate and postgraduate students, and novice academic writers with a basic understanding of foundational academic writing elements. The basic elements covered in this MOOC are basics in essay writing, how to avoid plagiarism, and basic and advanced referencing techniques. No prior knowledge is required for this MOOC, but you need to dedicate time to it. The length of this MOOC is three weeks of online learning. The MOOC is structured through "sessions". Each session focuses on a dedicated theme(s). The MOOC also consists of "compulsory" activities, which form the assessment of the MOOC. You must complete at least five of the six compulsory activities to successfully complete the MOOC.

A brief overview of this MOOC can be found on the following link:

<https://youtu.be/KLHjC3dzohU>.

Go onto the UNISA MOOC Portal using the following URL:

<https://mooc.unisa.ac.za/portal>

A guide on the registration on the MOOC portal can be found under **Additional Resources**/Assignment 3.

Note for Assignment 3:

You are expected to take screenshots of minimum 5 completed activities. These screenshots must be included in your Assignment 3.

An example will be uploaded under Additional Resources/Assignment 3.

Task 2: Starting your own research project

In this task you are expected to start working on your own research project. You should have identified a topic by now. Remember that the topic must be linked to ethical computing.

Section 1: Front matter (Template available under **Additional Resources**)

- Title page with your name, student number and course code and your Turnitin score (must be less than 30%). Title page under Additional Resources/Assignment 3.
- Add second page with your title of your research project.

Section 2: Table of content (must be auto generated)

Section 3: Introduction

This section provides an introduction to your research (½ page).

Section 4: Problem statement on ethical computing

- Problem statement (five sentences)
- Research question
- Research sub-questions (two or three sub-questions)
- Research objectives
- Research deliverables

Section 4 should not be longer than ½ page.

Section 5: Literature review

Populate the literature review section:

1. Introduction (½ page)
2. Definition of ethical computing (½ page) and your topic
3. Importance of ethical computing (½ page) and your topic
4. Some guidelines on being ethical within the computing environment (½ page) + your topic.
5. What possible gap(s) you identified (½ page) and how your research will overcome this gap(s).
6. Conclusion (½ page)

Section 5 should not be longer than three pages.

Section 6: Reference list (20 or more references).

Section 7: Appendixes

Appendix A: Add a screenshot of your home page of your referencing software

Appendix B: Add a screenshot of your signed plagiarism pledge

Appendix C: Turnitin submission receipt

Please note:

Please take note that the use of Turnitin is compulsory within the module. No assignment or portfolio will be marked without a Turnitin submission receipt.

Your Turnitin score must be under 30% (references included).

You will receive your Turnitin login details within your myLife account. If you have any problems with the login, please contact: Turnitin@unisa.ac.za

The following negative marking scheme will be used in the marking process. Marks will be deducted as follows:

- 0%–30%: No marks deducted
- 31%– 40%: 10 marks will be deducted
- 40%–50%: 25 marks will be deducted
- 51%–60%: 40 marks will be deducted
- >60%: 50 marks will be deducted

Additional marks will be deducted if you do not indicate your Turnitin % on the Title page and include your Turnitin submission receipt.

Do not wait until the day of submission to obtain Turnitin receipt. This may take up to 48 hours.

You can also attempt the Turnitin process a few times.

Marking rubric:

MOOC – Academic writing (40)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations (2)	Meet expectations (4)	Above expectations (5)

Your research project:

Title page (3) + Are your topic related to ethical computing?			
Unacceptable		Acceptable	
Table of content (2)			
Unacceptable		Acceptable	
Problem statement (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Research question (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Research sub-questions (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Research objectives (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Research deliverables (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Literature review (10)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Conclusion (5)			
Unacceptable		Acceptable	
Completed reference list and in text (10)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Layout of the document (5)			
Unacceptable	Below expectations	Meets expectations	Above expectations
Appendix A: Add a screenshot of your home page of your referencing software			
Not submitted		Submitted	
Appendix B: Add a screenshot of your signed plagiarism pledge			
Not submitted		Submitted	
Appendix C: Turnitin submission receipt			
Not submitted		Submitted	

Note: Negative marking will be used for:

- Turnitin not used.
- -5 marks for each appendix not attached.
- Grammar and spelling mistakes.